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SEYMOUR DURST

*t' Fort nieuw Amsterdam op de Manhatans*



FORT NEW AMSTERDAM

(NEW YORK), 1651.



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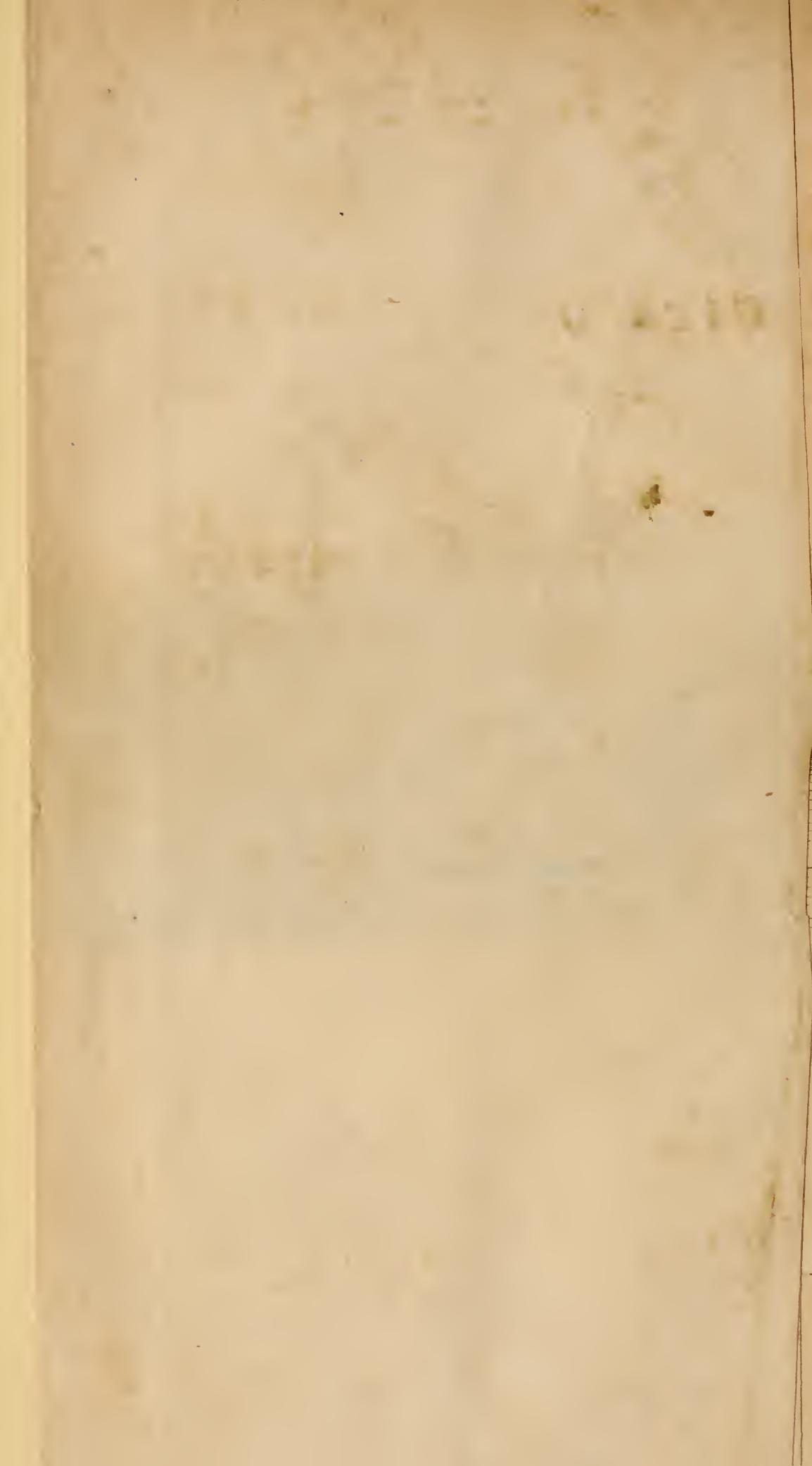




# NEW-YORK

in 1673

III 1673. (Rob<sup>t</sup> M C)



VIEW  
OF THE  
**CITY OF NEW-ORANGE,**

(NOW NEW-YORK,)

**AS IT WAS IN THE YEAR**

**1673.**

WITH EXPLANATORY NOTES,

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BY JOSEPH W. MOULTON, Esq.

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*NEW-YORK:*

PRINTED BY C. S. VAN WINKLE, 2 THAMES-STREET.

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1825.

*Southern District of New-York, ss.*

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on the second day of August. A. D. 1825, in the fiftieth year of the Independence of the United States of America, JOSEPH W. MOULTON, Esq. of the said district, hath deposited in this office the title of a book, the right whereof he claims as proprietor, in the words following, to wit:

*"View of the City of New-Orange, (now New-York,) as it was in the year 1673. With Explanatory Notes. By Joseph W. Moulton, Esq."*

IN CONFORMITY to the act of Congress of the United States, entitled, "An act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the time therein mentioned;" and also, to an act, entitled, "An act supplementary to an act, entitled, an act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned;" and extending the benefits thereof to the arts of designing, engraving, and etching historical and other prints.

JAMES DILL,  
Clerk of the Southern District of New-York.

## REFERENCES TO THE EXPLANATIONS,

### OF THE LETTERS AND FIGURES MARKED UPON THE VIEW.

*Letters.*—Let. A, page 23. B, 25. C, 25, 29. D, 25, 32. E, 25. F, 28. G, 30. H, 30, 23. I, 31, 39. K, 31—33, 10, 13, 15, 19. L, 34, 11, 14. M, 36, 19. N, 36, 10. O, 36. P, 37. Q, 38. R, 34, 35, 24. S, 29, 26, 25. T, 35.

*Figures.*—Fig. 1. page 24, 23. 2. 29, 30. 3. 29, 30. 4. 30, 31. 6. 6. 7. 35, 39. 8. 23. 9. 35 10. 36, 35. 11. 36.

*Objects not indicated by letters or figures on the View:—*  
viz. Streets—*Pearl*, page 23, 24. *Winkel*, 30. *Brug*, 30. *Hoog*, 31. *De Warmoes*, 34. *Tun*, 39. *Prince*, 31, 39. *Cingel*, 35. *Burger's Path*, 35. *Mire-lane*, 34: *Sheep pasture*, 31. *Public buildings*—*Citizens' guard house*, 34. *Corps de garde*, 28, 12. *Secretary's office*, 28. *Post office*, 28, 29. *Cucking or ducking stool*, 33. *Wooden horse*, 8, 13. *Whipping post*, 8. *Gallows*, 8. *City fire engine*, 8. *City bell*, 27, 28. *West India Company's garden and farm*, 31. *Armed and private vessels*, 7, 23, 24. *Commons or park*, 9, 93. *De Kolck*, 9, 37. *Bouwery*, 9. *Corlear's Hook*, 9, 38.

I CAUSED the prefixed View to be engraved for the purpose of embellishing a future volume of the history of this state. In the progress of my researches I have been so fortunate as to collect authentic and unpublished facts,\* which, though extremely curious and interesting, are too local in their application to fall within the scope of the general history. These I have prepared for my own amusement, and may publish them in the shape of historical notes of the progress of the city, from the period when the first trading and fishing huts were erected upon this island to the date of the present view.

I have ventured to look a little into that “dark age” of our history, viz. the twenty years between the discovery by Hudson, in 1609, and arrival of governor Wouter Van Twiller in 1629, during which interval Christianse and Eelkes officiated as supreme authority under the first “privileged trading company,” and Peter Minuets as the first director-general or governor, under the “privileged Wes India company.” I have traced the advancement of the city during the nine years’ administration of Van Twiller, the nine years’ administration of William Kieft, the seventeen years’ administration of Peter Stuyvesant, the nine years’ administration of the English governors, Richard Nicolls and Francis Lovelace, and the one year and five months’ administration of their Dutch successor, governor Anthonio Colve.

J. W. M.

\* The principal portion of which I have gleaned from thirty manuscript volumes, folio, of public records. I am, also indebted to judge Benson’s Memoir for some information respecting the location of several streets.

## CITY OF NEW-ORANGE, &c

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THE city, until its surrender by governor Stuyvesant to the English in 1664, had been denominated New-Amsterdam, and during the governments of Nicolls and Lovelace, New-York. In August, 1673, while England was at war with Holland, a fleet belonging to the latter, and commanded by commodores Cornelis Evertsen, junior, and Jacob Benches, captains Anthonio Colve, Nicolaes Boes, and Ab. Fierd. Van Zyll, recaptured New-York. Exercising the power of a supreme military tribunal, they named the city New-Orange, in compliment to the prince of Orange. Pursuant to the treaty of peace that closed the war in 1674, New-Orange, in the month of October, was re-delivered to the English, who resumed the name by which the city has been ever since distinguished.

It was at the remarkable era when the above intermission of the English government occurred, that the present view was taken. It originally appeared published at Amsterdam in Holland, at the bottom of a map bearing this title : “ *Totius Neo-Belgii nova et accuratissima Tabula apud Reinier and Joshua Ottens, Amstelodami.* ” The prospect had this inscription, *Nieuw Amsterdam onlang Nieuw Jorck genamt ende hernomen by de Nederlanders op den 24 Aug. 1673*, and underneath since has been added, *eindelijk aan de Engelse weder afgestaan*, which

plainly appears to be an addition, as it is engraved over the etchings of the clouds. It appears to me that this map was published by the Dutch immediately after the surrender of New-York to them in 1673, for the following reasons:—First, by the inscription upon the prospect of the city, wherein it is said, *New Amsterdam, lately called New-York, and retaken by the Dutch on the 24th Aug. 1673.* Now this appears to me to be a certain proof that it was published during the time the Dutch were in possession of the place, or very shortly after, as the words *finally quit-claimed again to the English*, are written over the former graving, as I observed before. Secondly, in the ornamental figures over the said prospect, the principal is a woman crowned with a naval crown, resting upon a club, holding in the left hand a wreath of laurel; behind her stands Mercury, and round her, Europeans and savages as returning their thanks to her for their liberty; one of the Indians offering to her an Indian village which he holds in his hands, emblem of the offer of their lands, (the Dutch in their paintings run much in emblems and allegories,) and under the said figure is written the word *Restitutio*. Thirdly, in the map, below the south side of Long Island, and near the entrance of the bay of New-York, are little ships anchored, and over them is written *vloot van Corñ Evertsen*, which was the commodore that commanded the fleet that retook New-York. Fourthly and lastly, there is upon the *street before the harbour* in the prospect, the representation of some *companies of armed men*, which, with the rest, seem to concur in asserting the date of the publication of the map at the time of the Dutch conquest.”

In 1769, an exact copy of this etching was taken by Du Simitiere, a French gentleman of taste, learning and research, well remembered as an amateur, by some of the elder citizens of New-York and Philadelphia, wherein he resided,

and in the latter city founded a museum and ended his days. From his manuscript copy I drew the one from which the present view has been engraved.\* His remarks above quoted appear conclusive that it was taken at the period of the re-capture. The reference on the original etching to the conquering fleet is particularly significant. The fleet in July, 1673, anchored off "Nayah," at the outlet of the narrows, and near the very spot that the English conquering fleet under Nicolls, &c. had moored, nine years previously. The former approached the fort in August, and after the surrender of the city, continued some time in the north river. In fact the "fregatt Zee-hond" (Sea Dog,) commanded by capt. Evertsen, and the 'Surinam,' a 44 gun ship under the immediate control of Gov. Colve, did not return to Holland with the rest of the fleet, but at the urgent request of the Burgomasters, were left for the protection of the city. It is also a fact on record, that the *Heeren-Gracht*, (see view I) was filled up, and the street levelled and paved, three years only after the date of the present view in which the *gracht* (canal) appears delineated.

The view, as copied from Du Simitiere's manuscripts, is unaccompanied by explanations, except a few letters and Dutch names. The design of the following notes is to supply this desideratum, and the design of another publication, if I should think proper to make it, will be to present an amusing view of the singularly slow progress and strange peculiarities of the ancient city; when, for instance, the legislative, executive and judicial power was vested in the governor and his council, under the supreme law of the land, the will of the Dutch West India company department at Amsterdam; when *de Heer Officier*, or *Hoofd-Schout*, † acted as the *Fiscael* or *Procureur-general*; ‡ when he or

\* For fear of impairing the authenticity of the original, I have copied it as it was, notwithstanding the badness of its perspective.

† High Sheriff. ‡ Attorney General.

the *provost-marshall*, the gaoler, conducted offenders to the gaol, the whipping-post, the wooden-horse, the gallows, or to the transport ship, if the criminal had been guilty of *crimen lesæ majestatis*; or of a libel merely on the good *Burgomasters*, then only to a stake, with a bridle in his mouth, rods under his arm, and an appropriate label on his breast; when the *wees-meesters* took charge of fatherless children and widows;\* when the *Roy-meesters* viewed the city fences and regulated them; when the overseers of the city fire-engine inspected all reed and straw roofs and wooden chimneys; when the official duties of the court-messenger were to summon parties to court, await the orders of the governor and council, read in church on Sunday, sing with the school, assist in burying the dead, and attend in tolling the bell; when “the first commissary of marriage affairs” determined all matrimonial controversies; when the city school-master was, ex-officio, clerk, chorister and consoler of the sick; when the miller could receive no grain unless accompanied by a certificate of its inspection by “the comptroller of the revenues of the company’s wind mill;” when the citizens were divided into great and small, agreeably to the distinction of *Groot Burgerrecht* and *Klein Burgerrecht*;† when merchants, traders and shop-keepers were obliged not only to pay a duty for the privilege of becoming small citizens (*klein burgers*), but also to pay a recognition duty, a duty to the public wharf, a duty to the overseer of the weigh-

\* A *wees-huys* or orphan-house is mentioned—but it was probably the house of the *wees-meesters*, for the city, according to the records of the times, was too poor to undertake “so grand an enterprise” as to erect a house like that in Amsterdam

† Great citizenship and small citizenship.

scales, a duty to the public *pack huys*,\* and a duty to the *eyck meester*† for marking their weights and measures agreeably to the true Amsterdam standard ; when the amusements and customs of the citizens consisted principally in dancing the hipsey-saw, shuffle-shuffle, or a simple reel ; playing with cards, nine-pins, balls and trick-track ; plucking the goose ; firing guns, beating the drum, and planting May-trees on New-Year's and May-Day ; sometimes planting the May-pole, surrounded with ragged stockings, before the door of the bridegroom ; sailing to Nut Island,‡ Pavonia,§ or “ Breukelen ;” promenading the pleasure grounds of the city, fishing by day and night, rambling to the commons|| for nuts and strawberries ; walking and riding in parties of pleasure to the Ladies' Valley,¶ *Bestevaars kreupelbosch*,†† the Kolck,†† the Bouwery, Corlear's Hook, Sapokanikan,§§ Bloemend' Dal, Nieuw Harlaem, Spyt den Duyvel Kill, or Vreeden-dal.\*\* But these and similar peculiarities of the ancient city, may hereafter become topics for the amusement of a leisure hour. I may then also open to view, more fully than I design to do by the following notes, the police economy and condition of the city, and describe the novel transactions that took place from the time the council of war of the conquerors transferred its sessions from the fleet to the fort, and until its re-delivery to the English. Assuming the authority of a supreme military tribunal, the former first remodelled the government over their conquest, in conformity to the ancient customs of the city and the exigency of the epoch. Accordingly they re-established the order of

\* Store-house.

† Weigh-master.

‡ Governors Island. § New-Jersey.

|| Now the park of the city.

¶ See page 36.      †† Grand-father's Underwood.      †† See page 37.

§§ Greenwich.

\*\* In West-Chester, north of Harlaem.

schout, burgomasters and schepens ; but retained the office of mayor, adding to it that of auditor of the military council, and appointed Jacobus Van de Water. They commissioned Anthonio Colve, who had been a captain in the service of the Republic, as Governor under the provisional sanction of the States-general and the Prince of Orange. They appointed Cornelis Steenwyck as his counsellor of state, and Nicholas Bayard as secretary of New Netherlands,\* and as *geheim schryver*, or recorder of secrets ; as *vendu meester*, or auctioneer for the city, and as book-keeper and receiver-general of the revenues. Relieved from the burthen of civil affairs, except on important occasions of a joint conference with the governor and council, or the burgomasters and schepens, the military tribunal was left at leisure to consult measures for the permanent security of the city. Then a code of sanguinary military law was deemed necessary ; the strictest discipline enforced not only in garrison but among the city militia ; the mayor, at the head of the latter, held his daily parades before the City Hall ; each evening he received from the principal guard, (*hoofd wagt*) of the fort, the keys, and, accompanied by a serjeant and six armed soldiers, locked the city gates, stationed for duty the *Burger-wagts*† and night watches, opened the gates at daylight, and in either case returned the keys to the commanding officer at the fort. In this interval no person could go upon the "ramparts, bullwarks, rondeels or batteries of the city," on pain of corporal punishment, but if any person "without any distinction," dared to enter or leave the city except through the city gate, death was the penalty. At the fort the soldiers were daily paraded and exercised, the guard

\* Now state of New York.

† Citizen on guard.

mounted the ramparts upon duty, the sentinels were stationed at the gates, the *réveille* was played each morning at day-break, the *tap-toe* beaten each evening at nine o'clock, in unison with the city bell, and the daily discharges of musketry and occasional roar of artillery, were heard in echoes at Flatten Barrack, Golden and Potbakers' Hills, or in reverberation along the surrounding shores and forests.

Every day a corporal's guard was on duty from each company in garrison,\* when the muskets were examined by the serjeants and corporals. The guard was on duty in the afternoon at one o'clock, and on Sunday at twelve, during which time the gates were shut. A lieutenant or ensign alternately remained on guard in the fort, and reported to the governor the transactions of the day. The gates were opened at day-light, and locked in the evening before it was dark. When the *tap-toe* was beaten, at nine o'clock, all the soldiers and sailors were allowed to go to sleep—"without making any noise." The corporals changed their sentinels at night each half hour. The chief-round (*hoofdrond*) went before midnight and received the *parole*, but at least one *adelborst*† previously made the round; and after the chief-round, the *adelborsten*, from time to time, went the rounds. In like manner on Sundays, during the sermon, he went the rounds in the forenoon and afternoon, and visited the walls. Their duty was to see that the soldiers kept their barracks and dwellings clean, and never to allow any dirt or water to be thrown in the fort. The corporals changed their sentinels in the day time as circumstances required—their duty was to see that the muskets were cleaned and well charged, to pay attention to all sorts of ammunition, to examine the *bandeliers*, (cartridge-boxes,) to be continually on the alert to take care that their men

\* The major of the garrison, was ensign Jan Sol.

† A grade only above a common soldier.

remained in or near the guard-house, to permit not more than three or four to go at once to dine, to prevent the introduction into the guard-house of any strong liquor, to instruct and continually exercise the soldiers, inculcate strict discipline, and finally, principally to pay attention “that neither Dutch nor Englishmen should enter the gates of the fort without permission, the magistrates of the city only excepted, much less that any person whatsoever should walk on the *batteries*. ”

In consequence of the great disorders which had arisen in the fort among the soldiers, a code of military law containing nineteen articles was promulgated by the governor, and the corporals were bound to read aloud these “orders” every time they were on guard, “that no one might in future presume to pretend his ignorance.” By this code they were liable to be punished for the first crime of blasphemy, with confinement on bread and water three days; for a second offence, the offender’s tongue “should be perforated with a hot iron,” and he banished the province. Death was decreed for mutiny, or for leaving his *corps de garde* without permission from his corporal, or remaining at night out the fort without permission of his captain, for challenging to fight, for disobedience to the commands of his superior, or to “the command communicated with the beating of the drum;” or if a soldier should “oppose himself to his officer or commander,” or in general neglect his duty when on guard or service, or if he should leave his post, or the sentinel be found sleeping when on duty, “he should lose his life without any mercy;” for wounding another so that blood followed he should lose his hand, or if in any fight or strife he cried to his comrade to assist him, he “should be hung and strangled.” This punishment should also be inflicted for going out or coming into the fort except through the ordinary gate. Whoever became

intoxicated during guard was cashiered and banished the company. He who did not appear on parade, should have his guard located to another, be placed on the *wooden horse*, and still be compelled to go on guard.

The commissary distributed to each man per week  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. beef, and 2 lbs. pork ; or if beef only was distributed, the ration (*rantsoen*) was 7 lbs. beef or 4 pork ; 7 lbs. bread ;  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. butter or the value of 2 st. Holland value. For 7 men per week  $\frac{1}{2}$  vat of small beer. For each man per month  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pints peas ; and for every man  $\frac{1}{4}$  schepel salt every three months. The serjeant and gunners (*constopels*) received the ration for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  man, the corporals for  $1\frac{1}{4}$  man.

Before the date of the governor's commission, one of the first acts of the military tribunal was to invite the citizens to assemble and appoint a committee of six to confer at the *City Hall* with the commanders and military council. Accordingly, on the 15th August, these six deputies held the conference, and received a request to call a meeting of the citizens to nominate a list of six persons for burgomasters, and fifteen for schepens, "of the best and most respectable citizens, of the reformed christian religion only."

The citizens (16th August) nominated by a majority of votes : *For burgomasters*, Cornelis Steenwyck, Cornelis Van Ruyven, Johannis Van Brugh,† Marten Cregier, Johannis de Peyster,† and Nicholas Bayard. *For schepens*, Jeronimus Ebbingh,\*‡ Willam Beeckman,† Egidius Luyck, Jacob Kip,‡ Gelyn Verplanck,‡ Lourans Van de Spiegel,‡ Balthazaer Bayard, Francois Rombouts, Stephen Van Cortlant, Adolph Pietersen, Reynier Willemsen, Peter

\* Whose wife, then here, was Johanna de Laet, daughter of the deceased Johannis de Laet, one of the first directors of the West India company, and author of the History of that company, viz : " Historie, &c. West-Indische Companie: Tot Leyden, 1644;" and the History of the West Indies, ("Nieuw Wereld, &c.") Amsterdam, 1625,

Jacobsen, Jan Vigne, Pieter Stoutenburg, and Coenract Ten Eyck.

Those marked † were appointed burgomasters, and Egidius Luyck the third burgomaster. Those marked ‡ were elected schepens, and Anthony De Mill, sheriff, and took an oath of allegiance “to the high and mighty lords the States-general of the United Netherlands and his highness the lord prince of Orange,” to obey their magistrates, who were or might be appointed, administer equal justice to parties, promote the welfare of the city, “defend and protect in every part the sincere and true Christian religion, in conformity to the Synod of Dordrecht, as instructed in the churches of Netherland.”

A proclamation was then issued, (August 18,) restoring the form of the government of the city to its ancient character of sheriff, burgomasters, and schepens, as practised “in all the cities of our Fatherland;” and the officers now commissioned and proclaimed were directed in addition to the duties indicated by their oath, to govern the inhabitants, citizens and strangers, “in conformity to the laws and statutes of our Fatherland.”

The same day a sequestration was ordered, by the military council, of the property belonging to England, France, or their subjects.

The commission for Governor bore date the 17th September. After he and his council were left in the full exercise of supreme legislative, executive and judicial authority, they issued the following instructions.

*Instructions for Jacobus Van de Water, as Mayor and Auditor  
of the city of New-Orange.*

1st. The mayor shall take good care that, in the morning, the *gates* are opened with sun-rise, and locked again in the evening at sun-set—for which purpose he shall go to

the *principal guard*, (the *hoofd wagt*,) and there address himself to the commanding officer, and demand, to conduct him thither, at least a serjeant with six soldiers (schutters,) all armed with guns—with these he shall proceed to the fort to fetch the keys, and return these again there, as soon as the *gates* are opened or shut. There he shall receive the watch-word (parol) from the governor, or from the officer commanding in his absence ; when he shall again return to the *City Hall*, and deliver the received orders to the serjeant of the guard, to be further notified where it ought to be.

2. The mayor shall be present at all military tribunals, and have his vote in his turn, next the youngest ensign.

3. The mayor may every night make the round, give the watch-word to the corporal, visit the guards, and if there are some absent, make the next day his report to the governor.

3. As *auditor*, he shall act in the military council as *secretary*, and take care that a correct register is kept of all the transactions. This book *Notules* shall remain under the care of the auditor—and deliver no copy of it, except upon special orders.

Done at “Fort WILLEM HENDRICK.”

12 Jan. 1674.

*Provisional instructions for the Sheriff, Burgomasters and Schepens, of the city of New-Orange.*

1. The sheriff and magistrates shall, each in their quality, take proper care, that the reformed Christian religion, in conformity to the synod of Dordrecht, is maintained—without permitting that any thing contrary to it shall be attempted by any other sect.

2. The sheriff shall be present at all meetings, and then preside, except that his honour the governor, or any other person commissioned by him, was present, who in such

case shall preside, when the sheriff shall follow in order the youngest burgomaster. But whenever the sheriff is acting in behalf of justice, or in any other manner as plaintiff, then in such case he shall, after having made his conclusion, rise from his seat, and absent himself from the bench during the decision.

3. All cases relative to the police, security, and peace of the inhabitants—so too of justice between man and man, shall be determined by definitive sentences by the schout, burgomasters and schepens, to the amount of fifty beavers and below it—but in all cases exceeding that sum, all persons are free to appeal to the governor-general and council here.

4. All criminal delicts, committed here within this city and its jurisdiction, shall be judged by the aforesaid sheriff, burgomasters and schepens, who shall have power to sentence and judge even punishment of death—provided that all judgments and corporal punishments shall not be executed before these are approved by the governor-general and his council, this approbation being demanded and obtained.

5. The meetings shall be convoked by the president burgomaster, which he shall communicate the day before to captain Willem Knyff—who by this is provisionally authorized and qualified to be present at the meetings, and preside in them in the name and in the behalf of the governor, and so to the sheriff, burgomasters and schepens.

6. All proposals shall be made by the first burgomaster, which proposal being made, then shall upon it, the first advice be given by him who presides in the name of the governor—and so of course by the remaining magistrates each in his rank; and after the collection of votes, it shall by the majority be concluded. But if it happen that the votes are equal, then the president may conclude with

his vote, in which case those of the contrary opinion, or the minority, may have their opinion placed on the protocol ; but may not divulge it in public, under the penalty of an arbitrary correction.

7. The burgomasters shall change their rank each half year, when the oldest shall be first president, and he who follows him the next—but for this year the change shall be every fourth month, because this year three burgomasters have been appointed.

8. The sheriff, burgomasters and schepens shall hold their sessions as often as it may be required, provided they determine on fixed days.

9. The sheriff, burgomasters and schepens are authorized to resolve for the benefit, tranquillity, and peace of the inhabitants of their district, and publish and fix, with the approbation of the governor, any statutes, ordinances and placards : provided that they are not contrary, but, as far as it may be possible, agreeing with the laws and statutes of our Fatherland.

10. The said sheriff, burgomasters and schepens, shall be obliged to a rigid observance of all the placards and ordinances which are commanded and published by supreme authority, and see that these are executed, and not to permit that any act to the contrary is performed, but that the contraveners are prosecuted in conformity to its contents ; and that, further, all such orders shall be promptly executed, which shall be conveyed to them by the governor-general from time to time.

11. The sheriff, burgomasters and schepens, shall be further obliged to acknowledge their high and mighty lords the States-general of the United Netherlands, and his serene highness the lord prince of Orange, as their supreme sovereign, and to maintain their high jurisdiction, rights and domains in this country.

12. The election of all inferior officers and ministers for the service of the aforesaid sheriff, burgomasters and schepens—the secretary's office only excepted, shall be elected and confirmed by themselves.

13. The sheriff shall carry into execution all the sentences of burgomasters and schepens without releasing any individual except with advice of the Court—and take particularly good care that the resort subjected to him, be thoroughly cleansed from all villainies, brothels and similar impurities.

14. The sheriff shall enjoy all the fines during the time of his service, provided that these shall not exceed the sum of twelve hundred gilders sewants value, annually—which sum having received, he shall of all the other fines receive the just half, provided that he shall neither directly nor indirectly enter into a compromise with any delinquent, but leave this to the judicature of the magistrates.

15. The sheriff, burgomasters and schepens aforesaid, shall on the 11th day of the month of August, being eight days before the day of election of the new magistrates, call a meeting, and in the presence of a committee chosen for that purpose by the governor-general, nominate a double number of the best qualified, honest and respectable inhabitants, and only such as are of the reformed christian religion, or who are at least favourable to it, and well affectionate, for sheriff, burgomasters and schepens aforesaid, which nomination that same day shall be sealed and delivered, from which then the election shall be made on the 17th of the month of August, with the continuation of some of the old magistrates, if it was judged proper or necessary.

Done in Fort Willem Hendrick, 15 Jan. 1674,  
By order of the governor general of Netherland.

(Was signed,) \_\_\_\_\_

N. BAYARD, *Secretary.*

In August, 1674, the re-election of city officers took place, "agreeably to custom, and the specific instructions of the governor." The old sheriff, burgomasters and schepens, accordingly met at the City Hall, the place of their sessions, and nominated a double list of "the most respectable and wealthiest inhabitants," viz :

FOR BURGOMASTERS—\* Willem Beeckman, Oloff Steven-sen Cortland.

FOR SCHEPENS—\* Stephanus Van Cortland, \* Ffrancois Rombouts, Jan Vigne, Peter Jacobsen Marius, \* Christopher Hoogland, Gerret Van Tricht.

At the close of the preceding year, the expenses incurred in repairing the fortifications and providing for the public defence, amounted to 11,000 gilders.

In the begining of the next year, (or in Feb. 1674,) the Burgomasters and Schepens of the city, notified the governor by a petition, that having become greatly indebted by these "excessive expenses," and being daily vexed by some of their creditors to make payment, they solicited that some expedient might be invented from which these incurred expenses, with others yet to be made to finish the fortifications—might be liquidated.—Having taking it in serious consideration, the governor deemed that, for the present time, no remedy more prompt, more efficacious and equitable could be applied or discovered, than that this money should be obtained by a taxation of the wealthiest inhabitants, "so as often in similar occurrences had been put in practice in our Fatherland," wherefore he deemed it necessary to command "that by a calculation, a tax be levied on the property of this state without exception—from all the inhabitants of this city New-Orange—those only excepted whose estates are calculated not to exceed the sum of one

These marked \* were elected, and the others were J. Van Brug, old Bur. gomaster, Jacob Kip, presiding Schepen—and Gelyn Verplanck, Schepn.

thousand gilders, "seewants value;" and that the aforesaid tax might be levied in the most reasonable and less oppressive manner, it was resolved that it should be levied and collected by six impartial men, viz: two in behalf of the government, two from the magistrates, and two from the community in this city; and for this end the governor appointed and qualified in behalf of the supreme sovereign, the member of council, Cornelis Steenwyck, with the secretary, N. Bayard: from the community, Cornelis Van Ruyven and Oloff Stevenson Van Cortlant, who, with the committee of the magistrates to be appointed by them, were authorized to execute the aforesaid taxation, and render to him a written report.

The commissioners immediately entered upon the discharge of their duty, assessed the estates and made their report, from which, and from the corrections made afterwards in their estimate, the following list will exhibit names of the "most wealthy inhabitants," and consequently the value of this city one hundred and fifty-two years ago.

Adolph Peterson, (1) estate valued at (gilders Holland value,) 1000	Anna Van Borssum, 2000
Andrias Jochems, 300	Barent Coersen, 3500
Albert Bosch, 500	Balthasar Bayard, (3) 1500
Abram Carmar, 300	Boele Roelofsen, 600
Allard Anthony, (2) 1000	Barnadus Hasfalt, 300
Abraham Jansen, Carpenter, 600	Bay Croe Svelt, 1000
Anthony Jansen Van Salè, 1000	Balthasar de Haerts House, 2000
Adrian Vincent, 1000	Claes Lock, 600
Abel Hardenbroeck, 1000	Carsten Leursen, 5000
Abraham Verplanck, 300	Cornelis Steenwyck, (4) 50,000
Asser Leevey, 2500	Cornelis Van Ruyven (5) 18000
Abram Lubbersen, 300	Cornelis Janse van Hooren, 500
Anthony De, 1000	Claes Bordingth, 1500
	Coenraet Ten Eyck, (6) 5000
	Christopher Hoogland, (7) 5000

(1) See pages 13, 14. (2) Notary Public. (3) See pages 13, 14.

(4) Captain of infantry, counsellor of state, &c. &c. see pages 13, 14.

(5) page 13, 14.

(6) He resided at Coenties slip, and he and his wife Jane gave name to this slip, which originally was "Coen & Antyes" slip. His tannery was on mire lane, see page. (7) Schepen, page 19.

Cornelis Chopper,	5000	Hendrick Willemse Backer	2000
Corel Van Brugges's houses,	1000	Hermanus Van Borsum.	600
Cornelis Van Borssum,	8000	Hans Kierstede,	2000
David Wessels,	800	Hendrick Van Dyke,	300
Cornelis Direksen, from westveen,	1200	Hartman Wessels,	300
Cornelis Barentse Vander Cuyl,	400	Harmen Smeecmar,	300
Dirck Smet,	2000	Henry Bresier,	300
David Jochems,	1000	Johnannes Van Brugh, (12)	
Daniel Hendricks,	500		1400
Dirck Van Cleef,	1500	Johnnis de Peyster, (13)	15000
Dirck Wiggerse,	800	Jeronimus Ebbingh, (14)	30000
Dirck Sieken,	2000	Jacob Kip, (15)	4000
Dirck Claesse, Potter,	700	Isaacq Van Vlecq,	1500
Aegidius Luyk, (8)	5000	Jan Mleynder se Karman,	300
Egbert Wouterse,	400	Isack de Foreest,	1500
Evert Pieterse,	2000	Junan Blaeck,	1500
Evert Wesselse Kuyper,	300	Jacob de Naers,	5000
Evert Duyckingh,	1600	Jan Hendrick Van Bommel,	
Ephraim Harmans, (9)	1000		1500,
Elisabeth Driseus,	2000	Jacob Leumen,	300
Elisabeth Bedloo,	1000	Jeremias Jansen Hagenaer,	400
Ffrancois Rombouts, (10)	5000	Jacobus Van de Water, (16)	
Ffredrick Philipse,	80000		2500
Ffredrick Arentse, turner,	400	Jan Dirckse Meyer,	600
Ffredrick Gisberts,	400	Isacq Van Tricht, in his bro-	
Guiliane Verplanck, (11)	5000	thers house,	2000
Guiliam de Honioud,	400	Jacob Abrahamse, Shoema-	
Gapriel Minville, (11)	10000	ker,	2500
Gerret Gullevever,	500	Jan Van Bree Steede,	500
Mary Loockermans,	2000	Jonas Bartels,	3000
Harmanus Burger, & Co.	400	Jan Herberdingh,	2000
Hendrick Kip, sen.	300	Jacob Teuniss Key,	8000
Hendrick Bosch,	400	Jan Spiegelaer,	500
Hendrick Wessels Smit	1200	Jan Jansen, Carpenter,	300
Hendrick Gillesse, Shoem- aker.	300	John Lawrence, (17)	40000
		James Matheus,	1000
		Jan Reay, Pipe-maker,	300
		Jan Coely Smet,	1200
		Jan Schakerley,	1400

(8) See pages 13, 14. He was rector of the latin school.

(9) Secretary to the sessions of the Schout Burgomaster and Schepens

(10) See pages 13, 14. Schepen page 19.

(11) Schepen, see pages 19, 13, 14. He and Gabriel Minveille and Oloft Stevenson Van Cortlandt, were commissioners to liquidate the demands against the estate of the ci-devant Governor Lovelace.

(12) pages 13 14, 19. Burgomaster. (13) do. (14) Schepen see pages 13, 14.

(15) Presiding Schepen, pages 13, 14, 19.

(16) Mayor and "Auditeur," (17) Merchant.

Jan Joosten, Barquier,	2500	Peter Nys,	500
Jacob Leyslaer, (18)	15000	Paulus Richard,	5000
Jan Vigne, (19)	1000	Peter de Riemer,	800
Jacob Varrevanger,	8000	Paulus Tureq,	300
Laurens Jan sen Smet,	300	Pieter Van de Water,	400
Luycas Andries, Barquier,	1500	Pieter Jansen Mesier,	300
Laurens Van de Spiegel,	6000	Philip Johns,	600
Lammert Huybertse Moll,	300	Reynier Willemse, (23)	
Laurens Holst,	300	Backer,	5000
Luyckes Tienhoven,	600	Stephanus Van Cortland,	
Marten Kregier, sen. (20)	2000	(24)	5000
Marten Jan sen Meyer,	500	Simon Jantz Romeyn,	1200
Matheys de Haert,	12000	Sibout Claess,	500
Nicholas de Meyer,	50000	S'ouwert Olp heresse,	600
Nicholas Bayard, (21)	1000	Thomas Leurs,	6000
Nicholas du Puy,	600	Thomas Louwerss, Backer,	1000
Nicolas Jansen Backer,	700		
Olof Stevenson Van Cortland,		Wilhelm Beeckman, (25)	3000
(22)	45000	Wander Wessels,	600
Peter Jacobs Marius,	5000	Willem Van der Schueven,	300

This taxation was made by the committee to their best knowledge of the capital which the inhabitants possessed.

From this list it appears that 134 estates were taxed, that the aggregate amount was about £95,000, a sum much less than that which many of the descendants of those “wealthy inhabitants” would at the present day be willing to acknowledge as the fair valuation of their individual property.

Previously to an explanation of the references denoted by letters and figures in the View, I will notice the currency and measures which are referred to in these notes, *viz*: seawant, beavers, gilders and stivers; a last and a schepel. Cash was so scarce in the ancient city, that even the ministers of the Gospel, and the West India company’s officers and servants, were paid in seawant or beavers. In 1660, ministers

(18) After the revolution in England in 1688, he seized the fort, assumed the government, over the province of New-York, was tried and condemned for pretended treason, and executed near the present gaol of the city. (19) Pages 13, 14, 19. (20) Pages 13, 14, 19.

(21) Held a monopoly of officers, see page. (22) Burgomester, page 19.

(23) See page 22b. (24) Schepen, page 31.

(25) Burgomaster, page 19 see page 13, 14.

were to be paid in beavers, at £1 3 4 a piece, and as these Holland at £1 10. In 1663, the officers and servants were paid in beavers at £1 0 0. Seawant, or seawan, was the name of Indian money. It was called also *wampum* (*wampum peague* or *peague*.) It consisted of beads formed of the shells of the *quahaug*, a shell fish formerly abounding on our coasts, but ately of less general occurrence. It was of two colours, the black being held of twice the value of the white. Indeed, this last was formed of another shell fish, called *metau hock* or *peri-winkle*, and was more strictly the *wampum*, while the black was called *suckau hock*. Their current value, was six beads of the white, or three of the black, for an English penny. Seawant was also taken from the common *oyster shell*, then bored and strung.

The first accounts of the English dealing in this currency, are in 1627. In 1641, an ordinance in council in this city, passed by governor Kieft, recited that a vast deal of bad seawant, "nasty rough things imported from other places," was in circulation, while the "good splendid seawant, usually called *Manhattan's seawant*, was out of sight, or exported, which must cause the ruin of the country!" Therefore all coarse seawant, well stringed, should pass at six for one stuyver only, but the well polished at four for a stuyver, and whoever offered or received the same at a different price, should forfeit the same and ten gilders to the poor.

In 1657, this currency was reduced foom six to eight for a stuyver. A stuyver was two pence, and a gilder 3s. 4d.

Among the measures, were a *last*, which contained 108 *sche-  
pels*, or  $81\frac{1}{4}$  bushels, and a *schepel*,  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a bushel.

**VIEW.**—A. The vessels lying on the North river side of the Capsey, (fig. 1) were Fort Orangische oft Albanishe Jachten : Fort Orange or Albany sloops. In the East river, the "Surrinam," 44 gun ship, is designed to be represented, besides some smaller vessels, as the "Snaeuw, and the City Leghter." The Surrinam, under immediate command of Governor Colve, and the "Zee Hond" (Sea-dog,) commanded by Commodore Evertsen, were

allowed by the “noble commanders of the military tribunal” to remain during the year, and until further provision should be made for the protection of the city. They were here the next year, for in March, 1674, it was adjudged that as the vessels in the harbor (fig. 3) near the *weigh-scales* (see H) might, on the arrival of an enemy, lay too much in the way, and hinder the defence, they should be secured; and therefore all the “skipper-s, barquiers and boatmen in the city,” were commanded to lay their vessels at anchor in deep water before the city, and on the arrival of more than one ship to secure them in the rear of the ship Surrinam, near the Rondeel, (see R. 1.) before the residence of the widow Loockerman’s, under the penalty that all those vessels laying in the harbor at such a time, should be burnt without discrimination.

Some of the public and private vessels that entered and departed this port during the Dutch dynasty, were—in the time of Van Twiller, the yacht, the Hoop, conquered by him in 1632, the ship Soutberg, or Salt Mountain, in which he returned from Holland in 1633, the yachten, or sloops Prince William, Amsterdam, Wesel, and Peace. The most conspicuous vessels in the period of Keift’s government, were the ship Harring, in which he arrived, March 28, 1638, and the “Angel Gabriel,” which he freighted.

During the protracted government of Stuyvesant, who began his administration on his arrival with three ships, May 11, 1647, and ended it on the surrender, September 6, 1664, the public ships, and private commercial vessels, became comparatively numerous. The harbor was now visited by “the arms of Amsterdam,” the “Arms of Renselaerwyck,” the “Arms of Stuyvesant,” the “King David,” the “Gideon,” the “Gilded Eagle,” “Queen Esther,” the “Rose Tree,” “St. Jacob,” “King Solomon,” the “Fox,” the “Pear Tree,” “De Trow,” “Oak Tree,” the “Great Christopher,” the “Gilded Otter,” “Crowned Sea Bears,” and the “Spotted Cow.”

*Fig. 1. The Capsey or dividing point between the North and*

• See View.

East rivers. This point terminated at a very short distance south of State street, which was formerly called Capsey street, and was the ancient boundary of the shore. The front row of buildings from fig. 1 to S, were upon this street, and extended to White Hall street. The next row near the fort, formed Pearl street, which then extended only to White Hall street. Between Pearl street and the fort, stood the large wooden-horse ten or twelve feet high, with an edged back, on which the culprit was seated and his legs fastened with a chain to an iron stirrup, and sometimes a weight was fastened to the foot. The horse is invisible on the present prospect, as well as the tavern distinguished as “the sign of the Wooden Horse.”

B. *Vlagg-Spil daer de vlag wordt opgehaelt als er comen Scheepen in dese Haven*, the flag-staff whereon the flag was hoisted upon the arrival of vessels into the harbor.

C. *Fort Amsterdam, genaamt James-Fort by de Engelsche*. Fort Amsterdam, otherwise called James-Fort by the English. The name officially given to the fort in 1673, was “fort Willem Hendrick.” It was first erected and finished in 1635, by Gov. Van Twiller, neglected by Governor Kieft, repaired and surrounded by a stone wall by Governor Stuyvesant, and demolished, and the ground levelled in 1790 and '91. It was situated directly south of the Bowling green, on high ground, was in shape of a regular square, with four bastions, had two gates, and mounted forty-two cannon.

D. *Gevangen Huys*. The prison-house or gaol. It was of stone and built by Governor Kieft.

E. *Gereformeerde Kerck*. The reformed Dutch Church was erected within the fort, by Governor Kieft, in 1642. It was of stone, and covered with oak shingles, which exposed to the weather, soon resembled slate. The motives that induced Governor Kieft to become the founder of the first church in this city, may be best related in the words of captain David Pietersz de Vriez “artillery meester van ’t noorder Quartier,” who performed three voyages to New Netherlands, associated with Killiaen Van Rensalaer and others, in 1630 to colonize this region attempted a colony at the Hore-Kill on the Delaware, in the time,

of Van Twiller, and another on “Staaten Eylandt,” which he sustained till the troubles with the Indians in the latter time of Kieft, drove him to abandon the country. De Vriez observes: “As I was every day with Commander Kieft, dining generally at his house when I happened to be at the fort, he told me one day that he had now made a fine tavern\* *built with stone*, for the English, by whom, as they passed continually with their vessels from New England to Virginia, he had suffered much, and who now might take lodgings there. I told him this was very good for travellers, but that we wanted very badly for our people a church. It was a shame that when the English passed, they should see nothing but a *mean barn*, in which we performed our worship; on the contrary, the first thing that they in New England did, when they had built fine dwellings, was to erect a fine church:† we ought to do the same, it being supposed that the West India Company were very zealous in protecting the reformed church (Calvinist) against the Spanish tyranny, that we had good materials for it, fine oak wood, fine building stone, good lime made of oyster shells, being better than our lime in Holland. Kieft asked me then who would like to attend to this building? I replied the lovers of the reformed religion, as certainly some of them could be found. He told me that he supposed I myself was one of them, as I made the proposition, and he supposed I would contribute a hundred guilders! I replied that I agreed to do so, and that as he was Governor, he should be the first. We then elected Jochem Pietersz Kuyter, who having a set of good hands, would soon procure good timber, he being also a devout Calvinist. We elected also Jan Claesz Damen, because he lived near the fort, and thus we four

\* This was the “*Stadt-herberg*,” or City Tavern, afterwards the “*Stadt huys*,” or City Hall, of which see K on the view, and page 31-3.

† De Vriez related the truth, for according to “New England’s First Fruits,” printed in London, 1643, (page 21,) there were in New England in 1642, 50 towns and villages, 30 or 40 churches, and a college founded by Mr. Harvard, “a Godly gentleman, and a lover of learning, then living.”

“Kerk meesters” formed the first consistory to superintend the building of the church. The Governor should furnish a few thousand guilders of the company’s money, and would try to raise the remainder by subscription. The church should be built in the fort, where it would be free from the depredations of the Indians. The building was soon started of stone, and was covered by English carpenters with slate, split of oakwood,” (that is, with oak shingles which, by rain and wind soon became blue, and resembled slate.)

The contract for the erection of this church is upon record. It was made in May, 1642, before the secretary of the New-Netherlands, between “William Kieft, church-warden, at the request of his brethren, the church-wardens of the church in New-Netherland, and John Ogden of Stamford, and Richard Ogden, who contracted to build the church of rock-stone, 72 feet long, 52 broad, and 16 feet high above the soil, for 2500 gilders (£416 13 4) “in beaver, cash or merchandize, to wit, if the church-wardens are satisfied with the work, so that, in their judgment, the 2500 gilders shall have been earned—then said church-wardens will reward them with one hundred gilders (£16 13 4) more,” in the mean time assist them whenever it is in their power, and allow them the use, for a month or six weeks, of the Company’s boat, to facilitate the carrying of the stone thither.

The church was not completely finished until the first year of governor Stuyvesant’s administration. In July, 1647, he and two others were appointed kerk-meesters, (church-wardens,) to superintend the work, and complete it the ensuing winter.

The town bell was removed to this church. Besides the office of calling the devout to meeting, and announcing the hour of retirement at night, the bell was appropriated for various singular uses. In October, 1638, a female, for slandering the Rev. E. Bogardus, was condemned to appear at fort Amsterdam, and before the governor and council, “to declare in public, *at the sounding of the bell*, that she knew the minister was an honest and pious man, and that she lied falsely.”

In 1639, all mechanics and labourers in the service of the Company commenced and left work at the *ringing of the bell*, and for every neglect forfeited double the amount of their wages, to the use of the attorney-general.

In 1647, all tavern keepers were prohibited, by the placards of governor Stuyvesant and council, from accommodating any clubs, or selling any ardent liquor, *after the ringing of the bell*, at nine o'clock in the evening.

In 1648, two runaways were summoned into court by the *ringing of the bell*, to defend themselves. And in 1677, an ordinance was passed by the common council of New-York, imposing a fine of six shillings on any members of the corporation and jurymen, who should neglect to appear in court at the *third ringing of the bell*. The bell-ringer was anciently the court messenger. In 1661, amid his multifarious official duties,\* he was to "assist in burying the dead and attend to *toll the bell*."

Between the church and gaol, was the *corps de garde*.

F. Governeur's Huys: Governor's house. The "big house" was built by Van Twiller, partly of logs and brick, but a much superior one of stone erected by Kieft, 100 feet long, 50 wide, and 24 high, with two outside walks the length of the house, the one nine, and the other ten feet broad; entry 50 feet long, and 20 broad, with a partition and double chimney, with cellars, windows, doors, &c.

The secretary's office was at the north gate, at the north-east bastion of the fort. It was built in behalf of Cornelis Tienhoven, who was secretary of New-Netherlands under Van Twiller and Kieft. From this office the first post-rider started, in the commencement of this year, (1673) to go once a month "to Boston and Hartford, Connecticut, and other places along the road."

The proclamation of governor Lovelace, issued December 10, 1672, is a document too curious to be omitted. It was in the following words:—

"Whereas it is thought convenient and necessary, in obedi-

\* See p. 8.

ence to his Sacred Majesty's Commands, who enjoynes all his subjects, in their distinct colonyes, to enter into a strict Alliance and Correspondency with each other, as likewise for the advancement of Negotiation, Trade and Civill Commerce, and for a more speedy Intelligence and Dispatch of affayres, that a messenger or Post bee authorised to sett forth from this City of New-Yorke, *monthly*, and thence to travaile to Boston, from whence within that month hee shall returne againe to this City: These are therefore to give notice to all persons concerned, That on the first day of January next (1673) the messenger appointed shall proceed on his Journey to Boston: If any therefore have any letters or small portable goods to bee conveyed to Hartford, Connecticott, Boston, or any other parts in the Road, they shall bee carefully delivered according to the Directions by a sworne Messenger and Post, who is purposely employed in that Affayre; In the Interim those that bee dispos'd to send Letters, lett them bring them to the *Secretary's office*, where in a lockt Box they shall bee preserv'd till the Messenger calls for them. All persons paying the Post before the Bagg bee seald up. Dated at New Yorke this 10th day of December 1672."

The buildings within the fort were burned during the famous negro plot, in 1741.

S. Stuyvesant Huys. Governor Stuyvesant's house or dwelling was built about four years before he surrendered his government to the English. It fronted the public wharf (2,) and stood on the west side of the present White-hall-street, nearly opposite the commencement of the present Water-street.

Fig. 2. 3. The public wharf (2) and harbour or dock, (3) were built by the burgomasters of the city about the year 1658. Here vessels loaded and unloaded, and a wharfage duty was exacted at first of eight stivers per last. The harbour (3) was constructed to accommodate vessels and yachts, in which, during winter, the barques stationed there might be secured against the floating ice; for which large vessels paid annually "one beaver, and smaller in proportion, to the city,

to keep it in order.” This wharf and harbour are now a part of Whitehall-street, Whitehall-slip having since been formed into the river.

H. De Waegh. The weigh, or balance. This was erected in 1653; by governor Stuyvesant, and the standard weight and measure kept in the balance-house, was according to those of the city of Amsterdam. To this standard merchants were obliged to conform, and to pay the *eyck-meester* for marking their weights and measures. Goods were here also brought in bulk and weighed, before they were stored in the public store-houses (G.)

G. ’T Magazyn. The magazines or public store-houses, or *Pack-huysen*, of the Dutch West-India Company, the “lords patroons” of this city, were situated in *Winckel-straet*, (Store-street) now Stone-street, which then extended from the now Whitehall-street to Broad-street.

Between Winckel-straet, and the dock(3) and the wall along the harbour, and in the direction across the bridge(6) at the foot of Heeren-gracht (See I.) was the *Brug-straet* (now Bridge-street,) and between this and the dock or wall was that portion of the present continuation of Pearl-street, which was after this view called Dock-street, on the border of which, between de waegh and bridge a small market-house(5) was erected in 1656, and a market established every Saturday on the shore, because farmers as the order in councel recited, “now and then” had brought various articles, “as beef, pork, butter, cheese, turnips, carrots, cabbages and other products of the country; and on coming to the shore often waited a great while to their loss, because the commonalty, or at least the majority, who resided *at some distance from the shore* remained ignorant that such articles were offered for sale.”

In rear of Winckle-street, and between that and *Beever-gracht* now Beaver-street was an open space called *markt-velt*, where a market had been held, and an annual fair or cattle-show exhibited, before the market-house on the shore was erected. It embraced the plain before the fort, and a lane reaching from Market-field(4) to Broad-street, and called *Marktvelt-steegje*,

Market-field-lane, is now Market-field-street, or Petticoat-lane as it was more generally called within the last half century.

The most westerly buildings in this view bordered on the east side of *Breede-weg* or the Broadway, which on the west side was carefully left open for the range of the cannon of the fort. Along the west side from the fort, as far as the present Trinity Church, was the West-India Company's garden, and thence beyond the city walls was the Company's farm, afterwards called the Kings' farm, and extending to the present Duane-street.

I. *Heeren-gracht*. Gentlemen's-canal, now (Broad-street.) It was called the *Moat* in the time of Governor Kieft, and the *Great Dyke* at the close of the English Governor Lovelace's administration, (1672) when it was ordered to be cleaned, and when also the streets of the city were paved. The Dutch called it *Breede-gracht* as well as *Heeren-gracht*. Three years after this view, (viz. 1676) the gracht (canal) was ordered to be filled up, and the street levelled and paved. *Beever-gracht* entered the *Heeren-gracht* from the west, and *Prince's-gracht* or *Prince-straet*, (now a continued part of Beaver-street) extended eastward, and terminated in a *Sloot* or ditch, whence has been derived the name of *Sloat-lane*.

In the vicinity of the *Heeren-gracht*, was the *Schapen-wey* or the sheep pasture, sometimes called the sheep valley.

From the *Heeren-gracht* to the *Stadt-huys* (K) inclusive, was *Hoog-straet*, High-street, that is from a point a little north-west of the corner of the present Pearl and Broad streets to the south corner of the lane leading from Counties-slip into the present Stone-street.

K. *Stadt-huys*, State House or City-Hall denominated also *Stadt-herberg*, or City Tavern, was situated opposite the first half moon (R. 1) at the corner of *Hoog-straet*, (which afterwards was called little Dock-street, and now Pearl-street,) and the lane running from Counties-slip westward into the street which is now a continuation of Stone-street.

The *stadt-herberg* was built by governor Kieft, and finished in

1642, for the purpose, in part, of relieving himself from the burden of hospitality which he had been taxed with, while his New-England neighbours tarried at the “Manhadoes” on their voyages to Virginia.\* It was built at the expense of the West India company, and called the company’s tavern. It was afterwards, upon application of the burgomasters, granted to the city for the purposes of a stadt-huys or city house, as well as the “great” or “public tavern.” This celebrated building, in which the most memorable affairs of the colony were discussed, and sometimes transacted; in which the schout burgomasters and schepens held their sessions and courts; in which the transfer from one power to another of the sovereignty over the city and colony was three times agitated and acceded to; in which the first public school ever patronised, was held, in 1652, and probably afterwards, as no school house was erected at the date of this view; in which the five commissioners of the first court of admiralty, organized in 1665 by Gov. Nicholls, convened and held their sessions; in which, during the civil war between the houses of Bayard and Leisler, our colonial York and Lancaster, one party held possession, and returned the fire of the other from the fort; in which the gaol of the city was kept for a long time, but in all probability, after the destruction of that in the fort during the memorable negro-plot:—this famous edifice is supposed by some to be yet standing on the spot of the original location, opposite Coenties-slip, and though divided into two departments or buildings, is the same that was owned or occupied about fifty-five years ago by Brinkerhoof and Van Wyck; in 1806 by Abraham Brinckerhoof, and now (1825) by his heirs.

The original building, however, was of stone, and the present of brick. The stone building was standing fifty-two years after its erection; but when the present buildings were substituted, I have not any authority for determining. It is not improbable, that the latter were used as the court house or city hall, long before the one at the head of Broad-street was afterwards

\* See p. 26.

erected. This also has shared the fate of the former—and the splendid city hall of the modern city now rears its dome where the chesnut spread its branches at the period of the present view.\*

The first *stadt-huys* was a three story house, surrounded with a *schroeinge*.†

In front of the City-Hall, Jacobus Van de Water, the mayor, with the guard of the citizens, is represented as upon the evening parade. In 1673 at the beat of the drum, half an hour before sun-set the militia (scuterry) of the city then on guard held their parade before the City-Hall. The mayor then proceeded to the city-gate(O) and locked it at sun-set, and at sun-rise he opened it.

In front of the City-Hall were also the stocks and whipping-post. The ducking-stool, or ratherucking-stool, was not yet erected, notwithstanding the Lutheran minister in 1673 pleaded in bar to a public prosecution against him for striking a female that she “provoked him to it *by scolding*.” The Dutch had the credit of introducing the wooden-horse, but thecucking-stool was reserved for the superior ingenuity of the English, who deriving a sanction for their want of gallantry from the immemorial authority of their Common Law, ordered in February, 1692, “at a meeting of a grand Committee of the Common Council, a pillory, cage and ducking-stool to be forthwith built.”

R. 1. *Rondeel*, redoubt or half moon‡ was also in front of the City-Hall, and is now a part of Counties-slip.

In the rear of the City-Hall was *Slyk-Steeg*, Mire-lane, and a tannery extended from the north corner of the lane, passing from Coenties-slip to Mire-lane, on which a bark mill stood. Hence the present Mill-street. In rear of this was elevated ground, and near it was *de Warmoes-stract*, (Street of Vegetables,) probably

\* Governor Lovelace, in 1672, issued a proclamation prohibiting tanners from barking the trees on the commons; and the boys from felling them as they had done “for their idle ffancies or the nutts sake.”

† Moat, ditch, or canal, lined with planks to prevent the earth from tumbling.

‡ Literally a “round bulwark.”

the present Garden-street, near which were the Citizens' Guard-House and the Lutheran Church, (L) or *Luthersche Kerck*. The Lutherans, Jews, and Quakers found very little toleration from the Dutch.\* The English governors were more indulgent. In 1671, Governor Lovelace authorized the Luthern Congregation to erect a church and to "seek benevolences from their bretheren here and on the Delaware." The next year, Edmundson, a friend from England, was allowed to preach to the society of his order. He held at an inn the first friends' meeting in the city, and the magistrates attended.† From the City-Hall, following the curviture of the shore to *Smet-straet*, (FIG. 7.) that is from Coenties-slip to Hanover-square, was the *Cingel*, Encircling, or Exterior-street, Thence from Rondeel or Half-Moon, (R. 2.)

\* One of the ancestors of the Bownes of this city, a member of the Society of Friends, was banished on account of his religion. Governor Stuyvesant was censured by the West-India Company, and apologized to Bowne after his return from Holland. But this early period was remarkable for gloomy superstition and bigoted intolerance. The frenzy prevailing in New-England extended its influence to this city. Here, within eight years before the date of this view, a man and his wife were tried as witches, and a special verdict of guilty brought in by the jury against one of them. Here, one year before this view, the inhabitants of Westchester complained to the governor and council against a witch who had come among them; she having previously been condemned as a witch and imprisoned at Hartford. During the year of this view a similar complaint was made, but Gov. Colve treated it as idle and groundless. A fanatic, however, who this year came into the city without consent, and pretending to be divinely inspired, made "a terrible hue and cry in the streets," crying on the bridge and before the houses of the Hon. Stynwyck, and John Lawrence, "Woe, woe to the crowne of pride and the drunkaerts of Ephreim: Twoo woes past and the third comming, except you repent—Repent, repent—as the kingdom of God is at hand—" who, as stated in the record of his subsequent conviction, also entered the church, made a great noise, abused with levity the word of God, and afterwards went through the Dutch villages on Long Island, to New England, and returned to his residence at Oysterbay, having every where cried the same words; was protested against before the notary public in this city, prosecuted by the attorney general, and condemned to be severely flogged and banished forever.

† The same year George Fox also visited the friends on Long-Island, but it does not appear that he came to the city.

which is now a part of Old-slip, towards the Water-poort (M) was the *Burgers'* (or Citizens') path, between the row of building (FIG. 9.) and the wall along the shore.

These buildings were situated on the ground, now the western side of Pearl-street along Hanover-square towards Wall-street. At the southern end of the row near the *Cingel* commenced *Smeer-stract* (Greese-street) or *Smet-straat*,\* afterwards called Smith-street, and now the lower end of William-street. Smith-street lane, (FIG. 8.) so called also by the English in 1677, was probably the present Sloat-lane.

(R. 3.) This *Rondeel* or half-moon, is now a part of Coffee-House-slip, and perhaps the spot on which the Coffee-House has been reared.

These three fortified *Ronduyten* (R) were built of stone, and partly constituted the defence of the East-river side of the city.

(T) The East-river running between the Island Manhattan and Yorkshire, or Long Island. (*Oost-Rivier lopende tusschen 't Eylandt Manhattans en Jorkshire ofte 't Lange Eylandt.*)

The Block-house at the Water-gate (M) was at the north-east corner of the present Pearl-street and Wall-street, where Messrs. Hones' auction store is now situated.

The wall connecting the *Ronduyten* was of stone, and was designed to keep out the inundation of the tide and sea. The City Wall was of earth, thrown up from a moat dug in 1653 from the East to the North river, at first four or five feet deep and ten or eleven broad, somewhat sloping at the bottom. On the top of this wall was a closely connected line of palisadoes extending a like distance from the Water-gate along the north side of the present Wall-street (FIG. 10.) to the North-river. Hence was derived the name of the present Wall-street, which coursed along the southern base of the moat, wall, and line of pallisadoes.

(M) *Water-poort*. The Water-port or Gate, sometimes called the East-river Gate, was connected with the Block-house at the east end of the wall.

(O) *Land-poort*. The Land-port or City-gate, was in the Broad-

\* *Smet*, a taint, blot or stain. *Smidt*, a Smith.

way, thence the wall and palisadoes extended to a fortification in the rear of the present Trinity Church, which was not built till eighteen years after the date of this view. This breast-work or battery may have been the same stone wall, four or five feet thick, which in 1751 was discovered back of the English Church nearly eight feet under ground.

The fortifications of the city at the time of the present view were denominated the fort, walls, bulwarks, Rondeels, curtains (*gerdynen*) and batteries.

(FIG. 11.) The Lady's Valley, a fashionable resort in the days of Governor Kieft, was probably the same place which was denominated in the period of his successor, *Maagde-paetje*, (the Virgins'-path,) now (1825) Maiden-lane. It was called the Green-lane 1692, when the Common Council ordered the land on the water side, in front of Smith's Vly, (N) from the Block-house to the hill of Mr. Beekman (Beekman-street) to be sold, and that portion from the Block-house to Green-lane, at 20s. per foot. The Virgins' path proceeded from this Vly in the direction of Maiden-lane to the elevated ground.

N. *Smidt's Valey*, abbreviated to *Smet* or *Smee's Vly*, was a marsh extending from the rising ground, a little north of the city walls, along the East river, or shore of the present Pearl-street, to the rising ground near Fulton-street.— This valley, or salt marsh, was bounded westward by the high ground along the rear of the lots on the north western side of Pearl-street. The *Vly* was spoken of as early as the time of Van Twiller. The English, adopting the sound without the sense of the word, called it *Fly*. Four years after the date of this view, viz. in 1676, the common council ordered the tan vats and slaughter houses to be removed out of the city, and a public slaughter house to be erected “over the water without the gate at the *Smith's Fly*, near the half moon.” Asher Levy, in partnership with Garret Johnson Rose, built this house, and received a grant of its exclusive use. This was the foundation of Rose's, or Fly-market.

North of the *Vly*, and between Beeckman's-hill and the present Frankfort-street, was a waste wet piece of ground, distinguished, subsequently to the present view, by the name of Beeckman's-swamp. Jacob street, and parts of Ferry, Gold, and William-streets, now cover it. This district of the city is still known by the name of "the Swamp."

P. *Weg na 't versche water.* The way to the fresh water. North of the rising ground that bounded Beeckman's-swamp, was another, but a much larger swamp meadow, or pond. It reached the East-river, and was not completely filled up till 1794. It occupied the area of parts of the present Cherry and Roosevelt-streets, Batavia-lane, James, Oliver, Catherine, Fayette streets, and the Jews'-alley, to Chatham-street. Thence, westward, it communicated by a stream, called the *fresh water river*, with the *fresh water pool*, or *de Kolck*. It has been fitted up within a few years since, and Collect street, and others in its vicinity, laid out in this part of the city. Some of our older inhabitants remember when the East-river was connected with the Kolck, or fresh water pond, by a small rivulet, which the rains frequently increased to such a volume, that a log was required to be laid across to walk over, and when the North-river was similarly connected by a ditch. Near the run was a mill, previously to the year 1661. In order to obtain more water for the benefit of the mill, the valleys were granted to the miller, and as the aqueduct, (riool) which he had dug, admitted the salt water into the kolck (pool) of the freshwater, to the prejudice of the community, he was required to hang a waste gate before the aqueduct to stop the salt water, and allow the fresh water to be drawn at low water.

Q. *Wint-Molen.* This wind-mill was erected in 1662, outside of the "City land port," (O) on the Company's farm in Broadway, between the present Liberty and Courtlandt-streets. The old wind-mill having decayed, upon application made to the governor and council, they gave to the builders of the former the stones and iron work of the latter, on condition that

they should grind gratis for the company, “25 schepels\* of corn per week, if so much should be wanted.”

Beyond the Fresh water river and Swamp-meadow, on the East-river, was *Nechtant*, the Indian name of Corlaer’s-hook, which has been also called Crown-point. Jacobus Van Corlaer owned the property, and had a plantation there, in the time of Wouter Van Twiller. De Vriez, in his Second Voyage to New Netherlands, mentions in 1636, “Corlaer’s Plantagnie and Corlaer’s Bouwery.” He was Van Twiller’s trumpeter.† On the 8th of August, “the first gunner of the fort (says De Vriez) gave a frolick. On one of the points of the fort a tent was erected, and tables and benches placed for the invited people. When the glee was now at its highest, Corlaer the trumpeter began to blow, which occasioned a quarrel, and the Koopman of the stores, (“*Koopman van de Winckel;*”) and the Koopman of the cargoes, (“*Koopman van de Cargasoenen,*”) gave the trumpeter names. The trumpeter, in revenge, gave them each a drubbing: when they ran home for their swords, and would take revenge of the trumpeter, and swaggering and boasting much, went to the house of the governor, and would have eaten the trumpeter; but when the wine was evaporated in the morning, their courage was somewhat lowered, and they did not endeavour much to find the trumpeter.”

He was living in the time of Governor Stuyvuesant. In 1652 he sold his property to William Beeckman, viz. “a parcel of land at the East-river, called Corlaer’s-creek, his plantation and creek, situated on the Island Manhattans, and named in the Indian language Nechtant, with the ground rent, for the sum of 4500 guilders, (£750,) provided the seller pay the ground rent now due.”

It has been supposed by some, that he was the founder of Schenectady. But this was Antonio Van Corlaer, who was held in the most exalted estimation by the Indians of this state, of

\* About 19 bushels.

† See also Irving’s History of New-York, by Knickerbocker.

the Iroquois Confederacy. He was drowned in *Lacus Irocoisa*, (Lake Champlain,) and in honour of him, the Iroquois called the lake after his name, as well as Schenectady, (Corlaer,) and always addressed the governors of this province by the title of "Corlaer," or "Brother Corlaer."

West of Corlaer's-hook and plantation, and north of the fresh water, was the Bouwery or farm (whence the Bowery, Bowery-lane or street of the city) which, in 1651, Governor Stuyvesant purchased, with "a dwelling house, barn, reek-lands, six cows, two horses, and two young negroes," for 6400 guilders. (£1066 13s. 4d.)

The city of New Amsterdam was laid out into streets in 1656. It then comprised about 120 houses, and 1000 inhabitants, including a numerous garrison. In 1660, Governor Stuyvesant transmitted to the directors for the department of Amsterdam, of the West India Company, a platform, or map and survey of the lots. In a letter to the governor, they remarked "We are gratified with the sight of the maps of New Amsterdam. In our opinion, rather large spaces are remaining without buildings, and the distances between these are too extensive, viz. between the *Smeer-straet*,\* the *Prince-gracht*, or *Prince-straet*,† and the *Tuyn-straet*;‡ so too between the *Heeren-straet*,§ and the *Beavers-gracht*,|| the houses there being, to appearance, provided with extensive garden lots. It might, perhaps, be the intention to cut off with greater ease new streets, when, on an increased population, of course the buildings would be approximated; which, however, we leave entirely to your wisdom and discretion."

Many of the spaces here spoken of, and hundreds of lots within the city walls remained vacant at the date of this view. But the health and comfort of the citizens were proportionably pro-

\* See p. 35.      † See p. 31.      ‡ (Garden-street) also called *de Warmoes-straet*. See p. 33.      § See p. 31.

|| See p. 31. There were two other streets after the survey of the city, viz. *Hert-straet* (Deer-street) and *Minquas-straet*, the location of which I am unable at present to describe.

moted by these, and by the numerous orchards, gardens, pleasure grounds, arbours and forest trees, that ornamented and shaded the city. It contained many handsome houses, constructed of plain and glazed brick, and of rock stone, and covered with red and black tiles. Its aspect was diversified by hill and dale. Its eminences were clustered with buildings, and the whole formed a most delightful perspective from the water. These eminences have been levelled, and a much more uniform surface is now exhibited. Three streets have been made into the East-river,\* and two into the North;† much of the very soil on which this Herculanum once stood, lies buried several feet beneath the modern city, or is concealed by alluvial accumulation. It contained about 300 buildings,‡ and 2500 inhabitants, including two or three companies in garrison, and three companies of citizen soldiers.

Thus the old city of New Amsterdam, or New Orange, as it was named one hundred and fifty-two years ago, was not much larger than the village of New Amsterdam,§ now situated at the foot of a chain of interior seas, the shores of which were then untrodden by civilized man. Then Schenectady was the frontier of the western settlement, in the latitude of this state;—now the mighty rush of population has overspread regions more than one thousand miles westward from the river Hudson.

\* Water-street, South and Front-streets.

† Greenwich and Washington-streets.

‡ Four years after the date of this view, a list of the buildings was taken. There were 868 within the city walls.

§ The real name of Buffalo, the capital of Erie county.











